

NZAMD MEDAL AWARDS

Introduced in 1999, the NZAMD Medal Awards are available for Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Musical Theatre and the NZAMD Group Award

WHAT ARE MEDAL AWARDS?

Medal Awards, particularly at the Junior levels, are aimed at encouraging students to perform, allowing them to dance in front of an audience, in a fun and non-judgmental atmosphere, and to lead them towards the examination system. Performance is important at all levels.

Currently awards can generally be gained at three levels with each having three categories - Bronze, Silver and Gold. Candidates may sit more than one Medal Award per session.

Jazz, Tap, Ballet & Hip Hop medals are available in Junior, Intermediate & Senior Awards
Contemporary & Musical Theatre medals are available in Intermediate & Senior Awards
The Group Award is only available at one level

JUNIOR MEDAL AWARDS

Junior Awards need not be taken in succession, and there is no maximum age for entry.

Junior Awards may be taken in pairs if the same music and dance is being used.

There is no marking range at this level. All Junior candidates who pass their Medal Award will receive 'Congratulations' on their report card.

Only **one** dance is required from each candidate, for each Medal. Any dance may be performed.

Timing - Dances at the Junior level must be **no more than 1 minute** in length.

INTERMEDIATE MEDAL AWARDS

These are suitable for students 9 yrs of age and over, however older students may begin with Junior Awards (except in Contemporary & Musical Theatre)

Intermediate Awards **must be taken in succession**, beginning with the Bronze.

Dances must be performed one at a time.

Each student is assessed on ability for age i.e. a 10 year old sitting Intermediate Bronze will be marked differently from a 15 year old doing the same level.

Report cards at these levels will be marked by the examiner with one of the following: Merit, Merit Plus, Excellence, Excellence Plus

Intermediate Bronze requires one dance. Any dance can be performed including the dance used for an examination.

Silver and Gold require two contrasting dances, one of which may be the examination dance.

Timing – Dances at Intermediate level should be **no less than 1 minute and no more than 1.5 minutes**.

SENIOR MEDAL AWARDS

Senior Medals **must be taken in succession.**

These may be taken after completing the three Intermediate Awards, however candidates at Elementary examination level may omit the Intermediate Medals and begin at Senior Bronze. Again, each student is assessed on ability for age. Dances must be performed one at a time.

Report cards at these levels will be marked by the examiner with one of the following: Merit, Merit Plus, Excellence, Excellence Plus

Senior Bronze, Silver & Gold require **two contrasting dances**, one of which may be the examination dance.

Timing – Dances at Senior level should be **approximately 2 minutes in length.**

Where two dances are required they must show good contrast in style, tempo and performance e.g. one dance fast, the other slow or lyrical.

MUSICAL THEATRE MEDAL AWARDS

The NZAMD Musical Theatre Awards showcase dance, drama and song in Group and/or Individual performances

Candidates may sing and / or dance, but must act out their character.

Both Group and Individual awards are available and students may enter the Musical Theatre Award at a Bronze, Silver or Gold level in the **Intermediate and Senior** awards.

All conditions are as the Intermediate and Senior Awards in other disciplines, and will also be graded in the same manner as other Intermediate and Senior Awards.

Each performance should be introduced with a brief narrative explaining the storyline and style of the chosen musical/s and how the character fits in to it.

Dances can be any genre as long as applying to the style and era of the musical chosen and, when two dances are required, with contrasting styles to show the versatility of the dancer.

When 2 dances are required both dances may be from the same musical OR two different shows and again, may be of any genre e.g one dance jazz, one dance tap.

At the beginning of their presentation the student is required to give a brief narration, explaining the storyline and style of their chosen musical(s) and how their character fits into it.

When dance and song is chosen one verse and one chorus sung would usually be sufficient. Lypsync is no longer accepted.

GROUP MEDAL AWARDS

These are a performance award and the group should be choreographed to demonstrate pattern work.

This Group Award is also part of the Medal Awards programme, however there will be only one Award - rather than different levels. **There must be a minimum of four students** in a Group, but students may enter more than once if they wish. There is no maximum number.

One dance only will be required and may be in any discipline e.g. a Hip Hop crew

The Group Award will be graded in the same manner as other Medal Awards i.e. Merit, Merit Plus, Excellence, Excellence Plus. One report card will be given and all students in the group will receive a medal.

Entries should be completed on the Candidate Entry Form for the appropriate discipline. The name of each student in the group must be included, and then group names bracketed together.

COSTUMING

Some costuming or 'dress-up' is encouraged, but is optional.

Make up and accessories may be used.

These all add to the sense of fun and performance intended with these Medal Awards.

PRESENTATION OF MEDALS

Students are presented with their medals by the examiner on the same day as their performance.

A report card will be completed by the examiner and returned to the teacher.

COMPLETING THE ENTRY FORMS

Entries must be completed on the correct forms:

Jazz -	Yellow	Tap -	Green
Ballet -	Lavender	Hip Hop -	Light grey
Contemporary -	Pale Lemon	Musical Theatre -	Apricot

The following abbreviations should be used when defining the Medals on the entry form:

JB = Junior - Bronze	JS = Junior - Silver	JG = Junior - Gold
IB = Intermediate - Bronze	IS = Intermediate - Silver	IG = Intermediate - Gold
SB = Senior - Bronze	SS = Senior - Silver	SG = Senior - Gold
MT = Musical Theatre	GP = Group entry	

PREPARING A TIMETABLE

Medal Award presentations are usually taken in groups during an examination day. However where there are larger numbers and a separate day/s and/or venue is used the Medal Award Timetable must still adhere to the same 9am to 5pm day as for Examinations. Time must be allowed for the performance, examiner's writing time, and the presentation of the Medals.

- A general rule is to allow 3 minutes per student, with a break of 10 minutes after each group to allow for the Presentation of the Medals. However **extra time must be allowed for the second dance in the Intermediate & Senior Medals.**
- Sufficient time must also be allowed for any Group entries.
- If there is an audience an extra few minutes may be needed to allow for the Parents to enter and exit the studio.
- Please adjust timetables to cater for candidates performing two dances or sitting more than one Medal Award.

If there are a large number of students entered for the Medal Awards they would usually be presented in groups of 10 to 15.

Students must be ready 30 minutes before their anticipated dance time.

AUDIENCE

An audience is also encouraged, to enhance the sense of performance and to build the dancer's confidence. Seating must be provided for the audience, and they should be placed away from the examiner. Students are also encouraged to support their fellow candidates by watching their performance.

NZAMD policy regarding the use of recording devices during medal award sessions -

Teachers, audience members and students are reminded that the use of any device to film or photograph students during NZAMD Medal Award performances is not permitted.

Photographs may be taken during the Medal Presentations, but again, no film or sound recording is permitted.